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When experts disagree about what is to be done in Mexico, who is to decide? Experts both in and out of Mexico offer many different solutions. There is George Agnew Chamberlain, for instance, who was American consul general in the Mexican capital from May, 1917, to August, 1919, who insists that a program leading ultimately to forcible pacification is the only one that deserves the attention of America. In "Is Mexico Worth Saving?" he has explained his plan in detail. He says that we should declare at once to whoever happens to be in control in Mexico an arbitrary price for every American murdered; that we should secure the re-establishment of the principle that government-owned railroads are responsible for the safe delivery of goods; that we should demand guarantees that tariff changes not specially legislated by the national Congress should not go into effect for ninety days; that we should insist that the confiscatory clauses of the constitution of May, 1917, should not be retroactive; that we should insist that the revenues pledged for specific national obligations should be so applied, and that we should stipulate that the outrages against the Catholic Church be indemnified and that the principle of religious freedom should be re-established. He would accomplish these ends by refusal to send an ambassador and if that were not effective, he would successively postpone recognition; put an embargo on loans, private and public; close all channels of communication by sea and land; make an armed demonstration, and if that did not work, he would intervene by force of arms. His book is devoted to an exposition of conditions in Mexico as he sees them. He has set forth the view of a small, but voluble, group on the Mexican border.

MRS. EDITH O'SHAUGHNESSY
Who writes about Mexico and the Mexican problem

Mrs. Edith O'Shaughnessy does not agree with Mr. Chamberlain. She can be called an expert, for she lived in the Mexican capital while her husband was secretary of the American legation, much longer than Mr. Chamberlain. She is intimately acquainted with the leading men of the country. She began discussing the Mexican situation in "A Diplomat's Wife in Mexico," published two or three years ago. She has continued it in "Intimate Pages of Mexican History," in which she reviews the careers of the four Mexican presidents whom she has known. Her review is illuminating and her point of view sympathetic with the Mexicans. In her preface she offers a solution of the Mexican problem, which, she says, is "in a way so simple that it is almost an anticlimax to her tragedy." It is that we permit her decent people, "the men of education and experience, that she is quite capable of producing, and whom our theories concerning an imaginary Mexico have largely kept in exile, to return and form the sort of government suited to her natural idiosyncrasies and the present stage of her evolution." The stopping of the sale of arms and ammunition to revolutionaries, she says, would give the man selected by the Mexicans to rule their country an opportunity to devote his attention to establishing order and restoring business.

One Mexican point of view is set forth by Jorge Vera-Estanol, former Mexican secretary of the interior and former secretary of public education, in "Carranza and His Bolshevik Regime." Mr. Vera-Estanol devotes himself to an attack upon the government of Carranza and to an exhibition of what he calls the bolshevistic character of the constitution of 1917. He insists that that constitution is illegitimate from the legal, political and revolutionary point of view. After discussing the constitution in detail, he concludes his book with a chapter in which he argues that Carranzaism and the new constitution are the most effective proofs of the failure of President Wilson's attitude toward the Mexican question, and that a further pursuance of such a policy would lead to similar results.

IS MEXICO WORTH SAVING? By George Agnew Chamberlain. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co.
INTIMATE PAGES OF MEXICAN HISTORY. By Edith O'Shaughnessy. New York: George H. Doran Co.
CARRANZA AND HIS BOLSHEVIK REGIME. By Jorge Vera-Estanol. Los Angeles: Wayside Press.

Dr. Collins on Italy

"Idling in Italy" is the outcome of relief hours from duty in Italy during the war by a well-known New York physician. The first part is devoted to animated descriptions of the works of leading Italian writers, his aim being to awaken such an interest in them that there will be a demand for their translation and publication in this country. Those to whom he gives the most attention are D'Annunzio, Papini and two whom he characterizes as "noisy Italian schoolmasters." There is much that is interesting and attractive in the works which he describes, but there are also many undesirable pictures of the working of the "depraved human mind."

A chapter is devoted to a description of an interesting ramble in Rome, and to the play instinct in children, which he says is wanting in Italy. One of the striking things to the stranger who is observant of family life is "that the parent doesn't play with his children as does the Anglo-Saxon, and children do not play with each other." In the concluding chapter of a very readable book he attempts to describe the enigmatic attitude of the Italians toward Woodrow Wilson, and to answer certain questions as to the reason of their distrust, "and thus to suggest why he has been a failure as President." A characteristic of the author's style is an unusual use of words, as in references to the enchantment of D'Annunzio he says that it is due to the "intoxications of his descriptions of beauty and to his mastery of technic and consummate mastery of behavioristic psychology." It is regrettable that in a work with numerous references to so many interesting people there is no index.

IDLING IN ITALY. Studies of Literature and Life. By Joseph Collins. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $3

The New World

A larger sphere of unrest is the field of Frank Comerford's "The New World." In this striking and earnest book he gives both the annals and the analysis of his tracking of the spirit of terrestrial uneasiness throughout Europe and America. He considers the "Red unrest" that is now so widespread "a specter which is menacingly hanging over the world." It is something that disturbs not merely the equanimity of the standpatter or the reactionary, but something that is likely to upset the equilibrium of civilization if it is not corrected. Mr. Comerford, in addition to being a competent lawyer and a trained social observer, has the philosophical background of the deep thinker on human affairs. He writes with sympathy and understanding. Among the subjects he debates or discusses are the old diplomacy of intrigue and disingenuousness, the third internationale, bolshevism, the greed and lust of imperialism at the Versailles peace table, and profiteering and poverty.

THE NEW WORLD. By Frank Comerford. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

Cabell Reprintings

People who have been prophesying that James Branch Cabell would some day "come into his own," will take comfort from the announcement that his publishers have recently sent to press for new printings "Beyond Life," "The Cream of the Jest" and "The Rivet in Grandfather's Neck." The often postponed publication of the revised versions of "The Cords of Vanity" will take place in September. In October McBride & Co. will reissue "Domnei," originally published as "The Soul of Melicent." The new edition will contain an introduction by Joseph Hergesheimer. Additional evidence of Mr. Cabell's new found popularity comes from the movies. An admirer of Mary Miles Minter reports that she may be seen in a recent film in the guise of an untutored mountain lass—reading "Chivalry." Can recognition further go?

For Boys and Girls

Elenore Abbott has made a new selection of "Grimms' Fairy Tales" and illustrated them characteristically and charmingly in many colors. The book is large in size and with nice, big type. Such familiar delights as Haensel and Grethel, Cinderella, Rose Red and Snow White, Rumpelstiltskin, the Shoes That Were Danced to Pieces, Little Snow White and the Coat of Many Colors are included in the forty selections from the repertory of the Brothers Grimm, whose "maerchen" are still unequaled in their way.

"Diamond Rock" will be of special interest to boys hereabouts since the numerous adventurous exploits of the two boys who figure in this story are cast in this locality. The biggest scene is that describing the Paoli massacre, at what is now a part of the Main Line, in which the redcoats and Hessian mercenaries swept down on the quiet Quaker settlement of the Chester valley on a marauding expedition. The two young farmer lads' humdrum life of chores, hunting and fishing is rudely interrupted in 1777 by the coming of the Revolution near home. They had been caring for the farms in their quiet valley while their fathers were in the Continental army. The new turn of affairs brought them many friendships and adventures which Captain Lisle has graphically set forth. The reader is assured that the historical details are authenticated though the characters are fictitious. Mad Anthony Wayne, General Washington and some other historic personages appear in the pages as well as the author's invented heroes.

"Little Friend Lydia," by Ethel Phillips, is the story of a little girl in a children's home, adopted by a childless man who played Santa Claus at the home. It is bright and cheerful with an abundance of interesting incidents—an excellent successor to "Wee Ann," by the same author.

LITTLE FRIEND LYDIA. By Ethel Phillips. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.
DIAMOND ROCK. By Captain Clifton Lisle. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Howe.
GRIMMS' FAIRY TALES. Selected and illustrated by Elenore Abbott. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

Tales of Mystery

Psychology underlies "Pengard Awake," by Ralph Straus, but this does not mean that it is a story of perplexing subtleties. Rather the psychological foundations give firmness of texture to the many hazards and adventures in which the author places his two main figures, a lovable old bibliophile and a remarkable bookseller, whose shop has distinctive personality. A famous author is also a sinister principal. The plot revolves about a curious secret that involves Pengard, and the solving of it may well baffle the most acute reader of mystery literature. Of course, there is a love element, a lovely and exquisite girl of high birth and breeding being enmeshed in the web of mystery. A capital plot capitally developed about sums up this plausible tale of dual personality.

"The Dangerous Inheritance" is not the first story in which gems have furnished the material for pivoting a story of mystery. In the case of Izola Forrester's engrossing novel, even such a familiar thing as the jewels of a singer reappear, but there is no press agentry involved. The Tittani rubies, which furnish the inspiration of this novel, are inherited by the competent, well-poised, quick-witted and beautiful Carlotta, as a legacy from her grandmother, a famous diva of a previous generation. Truly they prove what the title indicates, a hazardous heritage. The plot and counterplot of international intrigue are woven about the fatal rubies in a story that is full of incident and not at all deficient in higher literary qualities than are customarily deemed necessary for this type of fiction. It's a zestful yarn of rich romance.

"Little Friend Lydia," by Ethel Phillips, is the story of a little girl in a children's home, adopted by a childless man who played Santa Claus at the home. It is bright and cheerful with an abundance of interesting incidents—an excellent successor to "Wee Ann," by the same author.

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PENGARD AWAKE. By Ralph Straus. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

DRAKE, NELSON AND NAPOLEON

Their Careers Studied and Contrasted by an English Statesman

Sir Walter Runciman, Bart., British publicist and statesman, like many of his class, finds diversion from the practice of politics and the cares of office in literary and historical studies. The fruit of some of these studies, possibly the distractions from the frets and frictions of some of Sir Walter's cabinet portfolios, are embodied in a generous-sized volume of considerable substance, which he calls "Drake, Nelson and Napoleon." These monographs, centering about their heroic protagonists, are not merely miniature biographies or simply segments of history, but rather are interpretations of great historical trends and movements, showing the relatedness and relativity of past periods to events yet to come. There are sufficient data, statistics and personalia to give material for discussion. But it is in the viewpoints and analysis that the reader will find the most value.

Drake, Mr. Runciman considers the greatest Elizabethan sailor and the founder of the "fleet tradition," which is the basis of British navalism. Nelson is discussed as a great seafighter and strategist. Napoleon's career and policy are analyzed in connection with its later influence on the great World War.

DRAKE, NELSON, NAPOLEON. By Sir Walter Runciman. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

A Cowboy Gnostic

R. B. Cunninghame Graham, who shares, with W. H. Hudson, the distinction of pioneering and interpreting the indigenous and cultural life of South America, doing for his locale what Parkman and so many others have done for the romance of the far-flung frontiers of the United States, has written an interesting book in "A Brazilian Mystic." This is the narrative of the life and miracles of Antonio Conselheiro, cowboy and mystic, who flourished with his band of followers, all devotees of a sort of primitive Christianity, not many years ago. They lived the "simple life," dressing in goatskins, raising virtually all their supplies and occasionally adventuring. It is true that their somewhat independent existence was reprehended by both the church and the republic. The cowboy-mystic and his troop were killed by the national forces after a nomadic and somewhat predatory career of many years.

The book is much more, however, than the account of a chieftain described by some as fanatic and his band. Mr. Graham makes it the vehicle of a fascinating description of cowboy life in Brazil, written with glowing colors. His peculiar fitness for the task is known in the following letter, which Colonel Roosevelt, who knew a great deal about the Amazon and Brazil, wrote to Mr. Graham: "What you and Hudson have done for South America many have done for our frontiersmen in Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. Others have written of the Mexican frontiersmen, and written well about them. No one, as far as I know, has touched the subject of the frontiersmen of Brazil. Why don't you do it? for you have been there, know them and speak their lingo. The field is open to you."

A BRAZILIAN MYSTIC. By R. B. Cunninghame Graham. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

A Book of Happiness

Schoolgirls will probably enjoy a little story called "Sunrise from the Hilltop," which has been done by Beatrice Barmby with a true regard for "types." There is a "typical" English setting, and an aristocratic milord. There is milord's unsophisticated fiancee, and there is a "breezy" young American who talks as some English novelists conceive Americans should talk. The American "cuts in" on milord, misappropriates his fiancee, queers his game and takes her to that crude America. After a series of ups and downs the young wife adjusts herself to American ideas and ideals as Miss Barmby sees them, and thereafter all is serene and lovely.

SUNRISE FROM THE HILLTOP. By Beatrice Barmby. New York: George H. Doran Co.

McCarthy Solves the Mystery

Whoever is looking for a detective story that plunges him right into the mystery in the first few pages will find it in Isabel Ostrander's "How Many Cards?" It deals with eccentric Roundsman McCarthy's efforts to discover who killed a rich New Yorker found dead in his library with a bullet in his heart. Suspicion is directed to several different persons, and it is not until the last chapter that the name of the real murderer is disclosed and the person is some one on whom the shadow of suspicion has not rested. It is an absorbing story of life on the fringes of fashionable society in New York, the reading of which will take one's mind from his own worries and troubles.

HOW MANY CARDS? By Isabel Ostrander. New York: Robert H. Hinkle & Co. $2

The Randolph Bourne Legend

Already Randolph Bourne is a legend. He has been dead hardly three years, and yet his personality, his conversations and his beliefs have been so much talked about that he is fast becoming the father of a new age in literary and radical America. One contributor to this idea is Van Wyck Brooks, who writes a preface to Bourne's last papers and fragments which he has edited for publication under the title "The History of a Literary Radical" (Huebsch).

Van Wyck Brooks, speaking both as Bourne's intimate friend and one of the foremost critics of the day, says: "He was a wanderer, the child of some nation yet unborn. Smitten with an inappeasible nostalgia for the Beloved Community on the far side of socialism, he carried with him the intoxicating air of that community, the mysterious aroma of all its works and ways.

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Marcosson in Africa

When he was last heard from, Isaac F. Marcosson was in the heart of the Belgian Congo, making the long trip from Elizabethville to Boma, the mouth of the Congo river. He is probably the first American journalist to make the trip along Stanley's trail. Mr. Marcosson was the guest of General Smuts at Cape Town, and was also the guest of the Rhodesian government at Bulawayo. He expects to return to America late in the autumn. His latest book, "Adventures in Interviewing," has just been published in England, where it has duplicated the success it achieved in America.

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